

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Jump to:

[Air Quality](#)

[Federal & State Environmental Agencies](#)

[Environmental Site Contamination](#)

Climate Protection

[Energy Efficiency](#)

[Renewable Energy](#)

[Green Power](#)

[Green Buildings](#)

[Alternative Fuels & Efficient Transportation](#)

[Urban Heat Island & Urban Forestry](#)

[Waste Management](#)

[Greenhouse Gas Emissions Calculators](#)

[General Climate Protection Information](#)

Air Quality

EPA Region I Air Quality Index

During warmer months, issues air quality alerts and online mapping of ozone and particulate levels.

<http://www.epa.gov/region01/aqi/index.html>

Massachusetts DEP Air Program

<http://www.mass.gov/dep/bwp/daqc/daqcpubs.htm>

NESCAUM

Regional agency providing technical support for New England state air pollution control agencies.

<http://www.nescaum.org/>

[back to top](#)

Federal & State Environmental Agencies

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Region I – New England

<http://www.epa.gov/region01/>

Massachusetts Office of Commonwealth Development

<http://www.mass.gov/ocd/>

Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

<http://www.mass.gov/envir/>

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

<http://www.mass.gov/dep/dephome.htm>

Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation

<http://www.mass.gov/dcr/>

Massachusetts Division of Energy Resources

<http://www.mass.gov/doer/>

Massachusetts Office of State Sustainability

<http://www.mass.gov/envir/Sustainable/default.htm>

[back to top](#)

Environmental Site Contamination

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup

State agency responsible for enforcing site cleanup regulations.

<http://www.mass.gov/dep/bwsc/bwschome.htm>

Brownfields Redevelopment Fund

Funds administered by Mass Development to investigate and remediate site contamination.

http://www.massdevelopment.com/financing/lq_brownfields.aspx

Cambridge Public Health Department Environmental Health Unit

City department that monitors contaminated sites in Cambridge.

http://www.cambridgepublichealth.org/prog_serv/env_healthunit.html

[back to top](#)

Climate Protection

Energy Efficiency

NSTAR Energy Audits & Rebates

<http://www.nstaronline.com/> or call 1-800-592-2000.

Energy Star

Information about energy efficient appliances and products (marked with the “Energy Star” label), including a listing of retailers. The Energy Star label is also applied to buildings that meet performance standards. The Energy Star Portfolio Manager helps benchmark performance.

<http://www.energystar.gov/>.

Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light

An ecumenical organization working to help places of worship improve the energy efficiency of their facilities and to support energy efficiency action by congregation members. Currently, 7 places of worship in Cambridge have joined MIP&L.

<http://www.mipandl.org/>.

American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy

<http://www.aceee.org/>

U.S. Department of Energy

<http://www.eere.energy.gov/>

[back to top](#)

Renewable Energy

Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust

Provides funding and other assistance for projects that incorporate renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power.

<http://www.masstech.org/RenewableEnergy/index.htm>.

Northeast Sustainable Energy Association (NESEA)

<http://www.nesea.org/>

Boston Area Solar Energy Association (BASEA)

<http://www.basea.org/>

National Renewable Energy Laboratory

<http://www.nrel.gov/>

DSIRE – Database of State Incentives for Renewable Energy

Information about state tax and other incentives.

<http://www.dsireusa.org/>

[back to top](#)

Green Power

Massachusetts Energy Consumers Alliance

Markets “renewable energy certificates” to offset the greenhouse gas emissions from electricity use.

<http://www.massenergy.com/>

Green-E

Certifies renewable energy sources.

<http://www.green-e.org/>

[back to top](#)

Green Buildings

U.S. Green Building Council

Established the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) green building standards.

<http://www.usgbc.org/>

The Green Roundtable

Regional USGBC affiliate. The Roundtable sponsors regular forums and workshops on green building design and provides technical assistance.

<http://www.greenroundtable.org/>

Boston Society of Architects/Committee on the Environment

http://www.architects.org/committees/index.cfm?doc_id=150

Environmental Building News

Monthly subscription newsletter and *Green Spec* product directory.

<http://www.buildinggreen.com/>

[back to top](#)

Alternative Fuels & Efficient Transportation

AltWheels

Sponsors annual alternative vehicles fair/conference.

<http://www.altwheels.org/>

ACEEE Green Guide to Cars and Trucks

<http://www.greenercars.com/indexplus.html>

EPA Green Vehicle Guide

<http://www.epa.gov/greenvehicles>

Clean Cities Coalition

<http://www.eere.energy.gov/cleancities>

Bicycle & Pedestrian Programs

For information about Cambridge bicycle and pedestrian programs, see the webpage at:

<http://www.cambridgema.gov/~CDD/et/bike/index.html> (bicycle)

<http://www.cambridgema.gov/~CDD/et/ped/index.html> (pedestrian)

[back to top](#)

Urban Heat Island & Urban Forestry

DPW Urban Forestry Program

City department that plants and maintains street and park trees.

<http://www.cambridgema.gov/~TheWorks/departments/parks/forestry.html>

American Forests

Provides information about urban forest values and *CityGREEN* software package for estimating environmental benefits of urban forests.

<http://www.americanforests.org/>

Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory Urban Heat Island Group

Information about the urban heat island effect and mitigation measures.

<http://eetd.lbl.gov/HeatIsland/>

[back to top](#)

Waste Management

DPW Recycling Program

The City program offering residential and business recycling services.

<http://www.cambridgema.gov/~TheWorks/departments/recycle/index.html>

WasteCap of Massachusetts

Provides technical assistance and services to businesses and institutions on waste prevention and recycling.

<http://www.wastecap.org/>

Institutional Recycling Network

Provides recycling services to institutions.

<http://www.ir-network.com/>

Boston Building Materials Resource Center

Accepts donations of reusable building materials from construction projects for re-sale.

<http://www.bostonbmrc.org/bostonbmrc/>

[back to top](#)

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Calculators

EPA Personal Greenhouse Gas Emissions Calculator

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/oar/globalwarming.nsf/content/ResourceCenterToolsGHGCalculator.html>

Travel Matters Calculator/Center for Neighborhood Technology

<http://www.travelmatters.org/>

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Equivalency Calculator

<http://www.usctcgateway.net/tool/>

[back to top](#)

General Climate Protection Information

ICLEI Cities for Climate Protection

Sponsors project that the City has joined. Currently 147 U.S. participants.

<http://www.iclei.org/us/ccp/>

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

United Nations agency publishes assessment of climate change science every 5 years.

<http://www.ipcc.ch/>

U.S. Climate Change Science Program

See the report *Our Changing Planet: The U.S. Climate Change Science Program for Fiscal Years 2004 and 2005*.

<http://www.climatescience.gov/>

National Academy of Sciences

Climate Change Science: An Analysis of Some Key Questions

<http://www4.nationalacademies.org/onpi/webextra.nsf/web/climate?OpenDocument>

Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center

Technical information about greenhouse gas emissions and trends.

<http://cdiac.esd.ornl.gov/>

Massachusetts Climate Protection Plan

The Massachusetts Plan, issued in March 2004 sets targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and actions to accomplish them.

<http://www.mass.gov/ocd/climate.html>

New England Regional Assessment

Federally sponsored report on the potential impacts of climate change in New England.

<http://www.necci.sr.unh.edu/2001-NERA-report.html>

Harvard University Green Campus Initiative

Sustainability and greenhouse gas reduction initiatives on the Harvard campus.

<http://www.greencampus.harvard.edu/>

Massachusetts Institute of Technology Environmental Initiatives

Sustainability initiatives on MIT campus.

<http://web.mit.edu/environment/>

New England Governors/Eastern Canadian Premiers Climate Action Plan

In 2001, the 6 New England Governors and 5 Eastern Canadian Premiers entered into an agreement to address climate change and adopted targets for greenhouse gas emission reductions.

<http://www.negc.org/environment.html>

Pew Center for Global Climate Change

Reports on climate change initiatives in the business community and national policy.

<http://www.pewclimate.org/>

Climate Neutral Network

Organization working with businesses and other organizations to offset greenhouse gas emissions and achieve a net zero impact.

<http://www.climateneutral.com/>

Climate Ark

News archive about climate change.

<http://www.climateark.org/>

[back to top](#)